Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for July 30, 2006

Pre-harvest crop production estimates indicate that Saskatchewan farmers are expected to harvest 24.5 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops, according to the crop reporters who provide the information for Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

This figure is slightly less than the 10-year average production. Crop reporters will continue to monitor yield projections throughout the harvest period, and new figures will be provided if there is significant change in the production estimates. Statistics Canada's July production estimate will be released on August 25, 2006.

Crop reporters had forecasted better yields earlier in the season, but the recent heat and the lack of precipitation have lowered expectations. Provincial crop yield estimates range from 80 to 115 per cent of the 10-year average. There is variability at both the local and regional levels. Many crop reporters indicated they will have a better read on yields once combining begins in earnest.

Harvest operations are just getting underway, with one per cent of the 2006 crop combined, and two per cent lying in swath or ready to straight combine. Crops combined to date include winter wheat, spring wheat, oats, barley, fall rye, triticale, canola, mustard, lentils, peas, and chickpeas.

The weather conditions allowed for continued haying progress in many areas. Ninety-two per cent of the first-cut, and three per cent of the second-cut hay crop has been baled, or put into silage. Over half of the crop reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop, hay, and pasture land were similar to last week. Fewer than 20 per cent of the reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate. Reporters in the southern areas of the province reported the highest percentage of very short topsoil moisture ratings.

Heat and drought stress were responsible for most of the crop damage during the past week. Other sources of damage included hail, wind, insects, disease, and gophers.

1 Year Ago

Pre-harvest estimates indicated a production of 30.0 million tonnes of grains, oilseeds, and specialty crops.

More than half of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate on crop land.

76% of the first-cut and 8% of the second-cut hay crop had been baled or put into silage.

Wind, heat and drought stress caused the most crop damage.

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation

Saskatchewan Crop Insurance customers who wish to put their insured crop to an alternate use (any use other than combining) must contact their customer service office before baling, grazing or working it under, and request a pre-harvest appraisal.

For producers who plan to take their crop to harvest, you must submit your net harvested production before you can register any post-harvest claims. Production declarations will soon be in the mail for forage, grains, SMP and organic customers.

Crop Insurance Deadline Reminder:

Producers seeding fall rye and winter wheat have until August 25 to select winterkill coverage on their crops to be seeded by September 15.

For further information contact:
Terry Bedard, P.Ag.
Agricultural Economist
Policy Branch
Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food
306-787-5956
e-mail: policybranch@agr.gov.sk.ca

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CANADA ~ SASKATCHEWAN Crop Insurance

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

The south eastern region was hot and dry last week, but turned cooler at the end of the week. An average of 5 mm of precipitation was reported, with the highest average, 11 mm, reported in Crop District (CD) 2b. Over 40 mm was reported in the Moose Jaw area, along with flooding and hail damage. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 1a and 2b.

One per cent of the south eastern 2006 crop has been combined, with 3% lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, barley, fall rye, canola, lentils, and field peas.

Reporters indicated that crops were maturing and turning under heat stress. Some grain appeared to be shriveled.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved very slightly this past week. Four per cent of reporters rated topsoil moisture as adequate compared with 2% last week. Conditions also improved slightly on hay and pasture land with 4% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 0% last week.

In the Gainsborough area, farmers are feeding cattle because the pastures have dried up.

Rust and Ascochyta blight were reported in CD 2b. Insect damage came from painted wheat midge (CDs 1, 2b), bertha army worms (CD 1,) aphids (CDs 1b, 2b), sawflies (CDs 1b, 2b), wheat stem maggot (CD 1b), and grasshoppers (CD 2b). Some spraying for bertha armyworms was done. Gopher damage was reported in the Whitewood and Zehner areas. Kochia weeds are growing rapidly in the Weyburn area and will be a problem in many special crops.

First-cut haying operations continue in the southeast with 91% baled or silaged, and 6% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Those that are cutting a second time report that 12% of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops were desiccated and hay bales were hauled.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

The past week was hot and dry in the southwest, with some thunderstorms. An average of 9 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average, 12 mm, reported in CD 3bn. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CDs 3asw, 3b, and 4a. Hail damage was reported in the Abbey, Webb, and Eastend areas.

Three per cent of the 2006 south western crop has been combined, and a further 4% is lying in the swath or ready to be straight combined. Crops being combined include winter wheat, spring wheat, oats, barley, fall rye, triticale, mustard, lentils, peas, and chickpeas.

Reporters indicate that crops are suffering from heat stress and that yield potential has been reduced, substantially in some cases.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat this past week, with 54% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as very short, compared with 59% last week. Conditions deteriorated on hay and pasture land with only 2% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 5% last week.

Lightning strikes started pasture fires in the Webb, Richmound, and Cadillac areas. Southwest of Mankota, 6,000 acres burned. Dugouts are low in the Maple Creek area.

Insect damage came from sawflies (CD 3bs) and grasshoppers (CD 4a). Disease pressures came from ascochyta blight (CDs 3b, 4a) and mildew (CD3bn). Some farmers have sprayed their chickpeas two and three times and are still struggling with disease. Gophers caused crop damage in many areas in CD 3bs, as well as some damage in CDs 3asw and 4b.

Weeds are becoming a real problem in chickpeas in the Viceroy area. Pea and lentil crops are very weedy in the Limerick area.

Haying operations are continuing in the southwest with 96% of the first-cut hay either baled or put into silage, and a further 3% lying in

the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Many do not expect a second cut because of the hot, dry conditions.

Pulse crops were being desiccated.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region was generally hot and dry during the past week, with some cooling by the weekend. An average of 8 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 6a reporting the highest average at 131mm. Heat and drought stress as well as some wind damage were reported across the region. Hail damage was reported in the Semans and Meachem areas. Some crops were lodged.

Some harvesting has started in the east central region, but mostly in the fall crops. Some spring wheat, barley, canola, lentils, and peas have been swathed or are ready to be straight combined. Some field peas have been worked down in the Leroy area because they are not worth combining.

Reporters indicate that late crops are looking poor and that good stands of crops are rapidly deteriorating.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated, with 12% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as very short, compared with 2% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 28% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 41% last week.

Damage from bertha armyworms was reported across the region and insecticide application was underway. Other insect damage came from sawflies, aphids, wheat midge, diamondback moth larvae, and cabbage butterflies. Disease pressures came from rust.

First-cut haying operations are progressing, with 91% baled or silaged, and a further 5% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be generally good. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their areas. One per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops are being desiccated. Some farmers in the region are also dealing with the anthrax outbreak.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central region was also hot and dry this past week, with some showers. An average of 13 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with CD 7a reporting the highest average at 18 mm. Heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 6b. Hail damage was reported in the Grandora area.

One-half of one per cent of the west central 2006 crop has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. While most of the activity is in the fall crops, some barley, canola, lentils, and peas are also being harvested.

Reporters say that crops are advancing rapidly in the heat and that yields are dropping.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat, with 13% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 8% last week. Conditions deteriorated slightly on hay and pasture land with 10% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 14% last week.

Damage from bertha armyworms was reported in CD 6b, and some spraying is underway.

Cutting and baling the 2006 hay crop is nearing completion with 95% baled or silaged, and a further 4% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. A number of reporters do not expect to harvest a second cut. Three per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Pulse crops are being desiccated.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

The north eastern region had a hot, dry week. An average of 10 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 11 mm reported in CD 8a. Heat and drought damage were reported across the region. Wind damage was reported in CD 8b.

One-half of one per cent of the 2006 north eastern crop has been swathed or is ready to be straight combined. Crops seeing activity are

winter wheat, spring wheat, durum, fall rye, and canola.

Reporters feel that the heat and lack of rainfall has decreased yields. There is a variation in crops with some looking average and others looking very poor.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland improved somewhat this past week, with 58% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 52% last week. Conditions also improved somewhat on hay and pasture land with 61% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 52% last week.

Bertha armyworms, diamondback moth larvae, Lygus bugs, wheat midge, and sawflies caused crop damage during the past week. Some insecticide was applied.

Haying operations are progressing and 94% of the 2006 crop is baled or silaged, with a further 4% lying in the swath. Quality is generally expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect a second cut in their area. Three per cent of the second cut has been baled or put into silage.

Some land that was not seeded this spring is being cultivated and/or sprayed. Some farmers are dealing with the anthrax outbreak.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The north western region had a hot, dry week. An average of 12 mm of precipitation was reported during the past week, with the highest average of 14 mm reported in CD 9b. Wind, heat and drought stress were reported across the region. Hail damage was reported in the Debden, Spiritwood, and Turtleford areas. In the Spiritwood area, the hail was a mile and a half wide and 15 to 20 miles long with damage of 25% to 100%.

Harvesting is just getting underway in the northwest. Some fall rye, canola, and peas have been swathed or are ready to be straight combined.

Reporters say that crops are showing stress from drought and heat and that they are advancing rapidly. Yield reduction is expected. Those that received rain say it will help fill the heads and pods.

Topsoil moisture conditions on cropland deteriorated this past week, 26% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared with 32% last week. Conditions also deteriorated on hay and pasture land with 22% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate compared to 29% last week.

Insect damage came from diamondback moth larvae, bertha armyworms, and wheat midge.

Haying operations are progressing with 88% of the crop baled or silaged, and a further 8% lying in the swath. Quality is expected to be good. Many reporters do not expect to see a second cut in their area.

Pulse desiccation is underway.

Saskatchewan Crop Production Estimate
July 30, 2006

	2006			1996-2005 average		
	acres* '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t	acres '000	bu/ac	prod'n '000 t
winter wheat	265	38.8	280.0	133.5	35.5	129.4
spring wheat	10 455	29.7	8 450.0	10 222.0	30.1	8 435.5
durum	3 568	25.7	2 500.0	4 626.0	29.9	3 759.2
oats	1 837	60.7	1 720.0	1 565.5	58.9	1 427.3
barley	3 602	49.6	3 890.0	4 241.0	48.8	4 523.0
fall rye	133	35.7	120.0	148.5	30.9	119.8
tritcale	30	26.6	20.0	28.5	33.4	25.9
flax	1 553	18.0	710.0	1 184.0	18.4	555.3
canola	6 389	25.0	3 620.0	5 435.0	23.7	2 957.6
field peas	2 663	29.1	2 110.0	1 991.0	29.6	1 590.9
subtotal	**30 495**		**23 420**	**29 575.0**		**23 523.9**
		lb/ac			lb/ac	
mustard	271	894	110.0	520.0	778	183.8
sunflowers	37	1 187	20.0	35.3	1 074	16.8
lentils	1 362	1 085	670.0	1 300.0	1 078	642.8
canary seed	280	1 022	130.0	441.0	893	178.1
chick peas	258	983	115.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	**32 704**		**24 465.0**	**31 871.3**		**24 545.4**

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending July 30, 2006

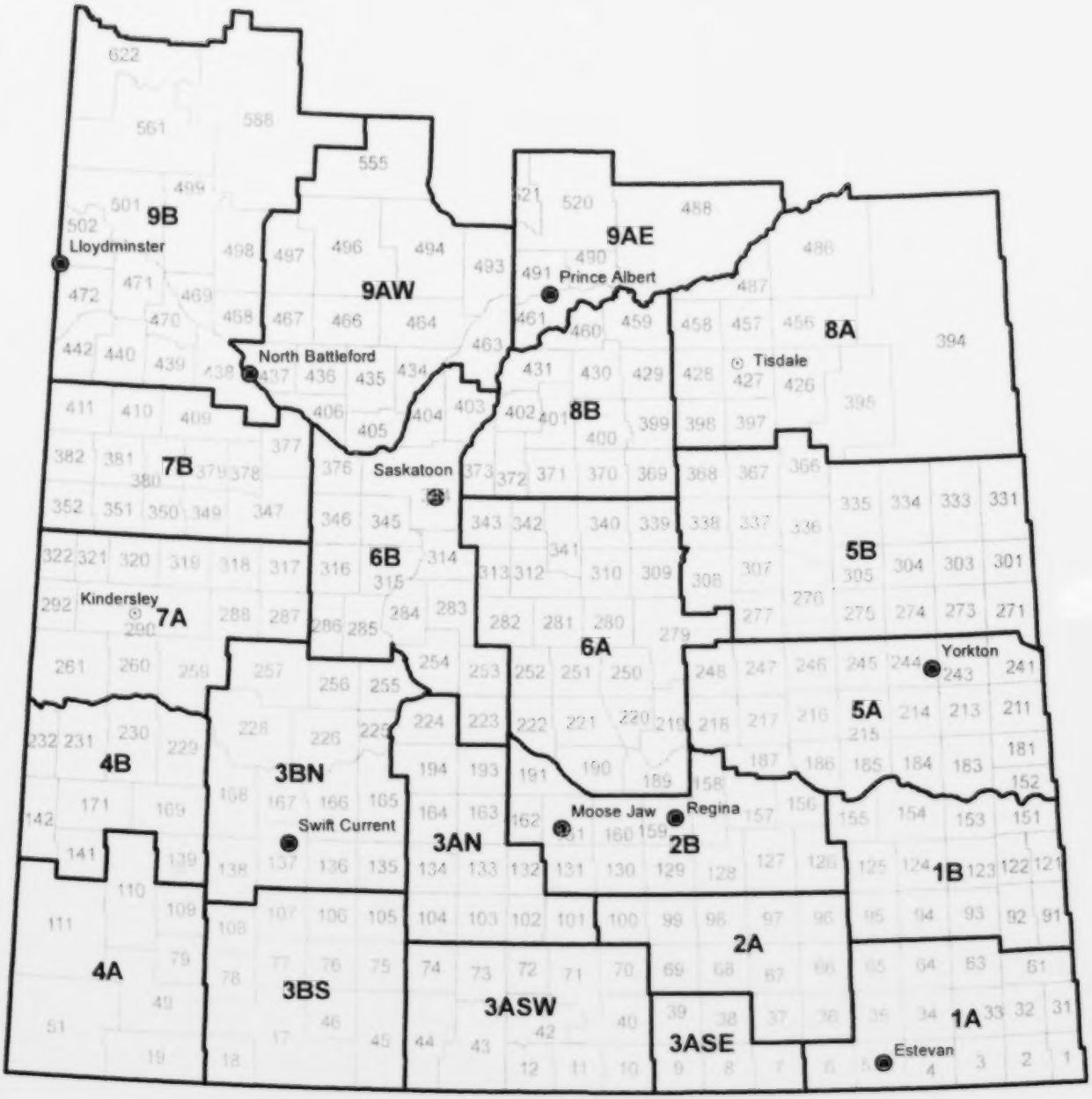
Crop Dist.	Municipality No.	Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	1	Argyle	NIL	149
	2	Mount Pleasant	NIL	181
	3 B	Enniskillen	NIL	152
	32	Reciprocity	NIL	117
	33 A	Moose Creek	NIL	142
	34	Browning	7	222
	35	Benson	2	176
	63 A	Moose Mountain	NIL	193
	63 B	Moose Mountain	2	196
	64	Brock	1	198
	65	Tecumseh	3	205
1B	91	Maryfield	4	139
	92	Walpole	NIL	171
	93	Wawken	10	216
	95	Golden West	NIL	216
	121	Moosomin	NIL	218
	122	Martin	NIL	211
	124	Kingsley	6	202
	125	Chester	5	182
	151 B	Rocanville	5	319
	153	Willowdale	7	214
	154	Elcapo	8	220
	155	Wolseley	2	234
2A	36	Cymri	2	239
	66	Griffin	TR	200
	67	Weyburn	TR	209
	68	Brokenshell	1	211
	96	Fillmore	3	208
	97	Wellington	2	196
	99	Caledonia	16	214
2B	126	Montmartre	TR	179
	127	Francis	10	215
	129	Bratt's Lake	10	195
	131	Baildon	28	248
	156 A	Indian Head	6	225
	156 B	Indian Head	4	231
	157	South Qu'appelle	6	211
	158	Edenwold	5	191
	160	Pense	10	218
	161	Moose Jaw	43	362
	191	Marquis	5	259
3ASE	8	Lake Alma	15	240
	38 A	Laurier	7	218
	38 B	Laurier	5	171
	39 A	The Gap	1	173
	39 B	The Gap	8	187
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	14	163
	12	Poplar Valley	17	156
	42	Willow Bunch	23	187
	43 A	Old Post	3	137
	43 B	Old Post	6	157
	44	Waverley	11	233
	70	Key West	NIL	183
	71 A	Excel	3	198
	71 C	Excel	NIL	262
	73 A	Stonehenge	12	237
	73 B	Stonehenge	3	237
3AN	101 A	Terrell	2	196
	101 B	Terrell	8	192
	102	Lake Johnston	4	193
	103	Sutton	9	236
	132	Hillsborough	22	272
	134	Shamrock	14	266
	193	Eyebrow	9	286
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	2	146
	17 B	Val Marie	2	138
	45	Mankota	19	219
	46	Glen Mcpherson	NIL	168
	75 A	Pinto Creek	8	203
	75 B	Pinto Creek	10	219
	76 A	Auvergne	10	133
	76 B	Auvergne	13	167
	77	Wise Creek	14	105
	78 B	Grassy Creek	15	101
	78 C	Grassy Creek	11	121
	105	Glenbain	10	350
	106	Whiska Creek	30	200
	107	Lac Pelletier	16	161
	108	Bone Creek	7	142
3BN	135	Lawtonia	15	273
	136	Coulee	8	226
	138	Webb	21	188
	166	Excelsior	3	202
	167	Sask. Landing	8	194
	225	Canaan	12	185
	226	Victory	15	192
	228 A	Lacadena	5	158
	228 B	Lacadena	22	226
4A	19	Frontier	4	142
	49 A	White Valley	20	120
	51	Reno	1	127
	79	Arlington	12	105
	109	Carmichael	NIL	144
	110	Piapot	NIL	131
	111 A	Maple Creek	2	122
	111 B	Maple Creek	1	123
4B	139	Gull Lake	7	144
	141	Big Stick	3	142
	142	Enterprise	1	177
	231	Happyland	3	183
	232	Deer Forks	7	160
5A	152	Spy Hill	NIL	266
	183	Fertile Belt	NIL	227
	185	Mcleod	3	203
	186	Abernethy	3	217
	187	North Qu'appelle	5	201
	211	Churchbridge	TR	219
	213	Saltcoats	TR	166
	216	Tullymet	6	269
	217 B	Lipton	5	232
	241	Calder	NIL	170
	243	Wallace	NIL	185*
	245 A	Garry	TR	214
	245 B	Garry	2	237
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	16	236
	247	Kellross	7	309
	248	Touchwood	16	224
5B	271	Cote	TR	193
	273	Sliding Hills	2	141
	275 B	Insinger	NIL	237
	276	Foam Lake	8	281
	277	Emerald	5	266
	307	Elfros	24	287
	308	Big Quill	4	187
	335	Hazel Dell	4	258
	336	Sasman	NIL	251
	337	Lakeview	5	287
	338	Lakeside	3	266
	366 B	Kelvington	25	238
	367	Ponass Lake	13	337
6A	189	Lumsden	8	284
	190 A	Dufferin	2	182
	190 B	Dufferin	8	273
	190 C	Dufferin	5	239
	219 B	Longlaketon	6	201
	219 C	Longlaketon	5	196
	220	Mckillop	12	275
	221	Sarnia	9	252
	222	Craik	12	296
	251	Big Arm	8	196
	252	Arm River	8	215
	279 A	Mount Hope	29	219
	279 B	Mount Hope	19	230
	280	Wreford	20	187
	282	Mccraney	26	217
	309	Prairie Rose	6	237
	312	Morris	11	224
	313	Lost River	6	185
	339 B	Leroy	6	253
	340 A	Wolverine	17	281
	340 B	Wolverine	12	290
	341	Viscount	7	190
6B	254	Loreburn	18	215
	283	Rosedale	10	169
	284	Rudy	19	223
	285	Fertile Valley	11	223
	314	Dundurn	8	9*
	344	Corman Park	10	162
	345	Vanscoy	5	206
	346	Perdue	11	224
	376 B	Eagle Creek	4	199
	404	Laird	5	213
7A	259	Snipe Lake	12	125
	287	St. Andrews	6	119
	288	Pleasant Valley	9	145
	292	Milton	23	204
	317 B	Marriott	24	204*
	317 C	Marriott	19	185
	318 A	Mountain View	44	218
	318 B	Mountain View	13	204
	320	Oakdale	15	150
	321	Prairiedale	34	260
	322	Antelope Park	22	181
7B	347 A	Biggar	6	192
	350 A	Mariposa	1	140
	351	Progress	8	174
	377	Glenside	8	213
	378 A	Rosemount	15	174
	378 B	Rosemount	6	127
	379	Reford	9	155
	380	Tramping Lake	7	7*
	381	Grass Lake	13	186
	382	Eye Hill	30	233
	411	Senlac	18	282
8A	395	Porcupine	NIL	251
	397	Barrier Valley	9	310
	398	Pleasantdale	7	238*
	456	Arborfield	33	239
	457 A	Connaught	6	374
	457 B	Connaught	6	218
	458	Willow Creek	22	230
	486	Moose Range	8	183
	487	Nipawin	10	229
8B	369	St. Peter	13	329
	370	Humboldt	1	222
	371	Bayne	9	228
	372	Grant	4	191
	373	Aberdeen	10	185
	399	Lake Lenore	2	218
	400	Three Lakes	18	189
	402	Fish Creek	6	189
	429 A	Flett's Springs	NIL	193
	429 B	Flett's Springs	NIL	208
	430	Invergordon	19	250
	431	St. Louis	48	284
	459	Kinistino	3	185
9AE	488	Torch River	1	246
	520	Paddockwood	16	283
9AW	406	Mayfield	4	212
	435	Redberry	4	213
	436	Douglas	NIL	197
	436 B	Douglas	2	119*
	463	Duck Lake	12	213
	464	Leask	7	248
	466	Meeting Lake	8	186
	467	Round Hill	4	210
	494	Canwood	13	269
	496	Spiritwood	22	250
	555	Big River	20	240
9B	438 A	Battle River	14	188
	438 B	Battle River	8	192
	440	Hillsdale	11	109
	442	Manitou Lake	18	187
	468	Meota	11	171
	472	Wilton	26	199
	498 A	Parkdale	22	157
	498 B	Parkdale	9	120
	499	Mervin	30	178
	501 A	Frenchman Butte	21	147
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	18	140
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	19	172
	502	Britannia	22	189
	561	Loon Lake	3	117
	588 B	Meadow Lake	3	121
	588 C	Meadow Lake	3	106
	588 D	Meadow Lake	16	133
	622	Beaver River	4	147

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

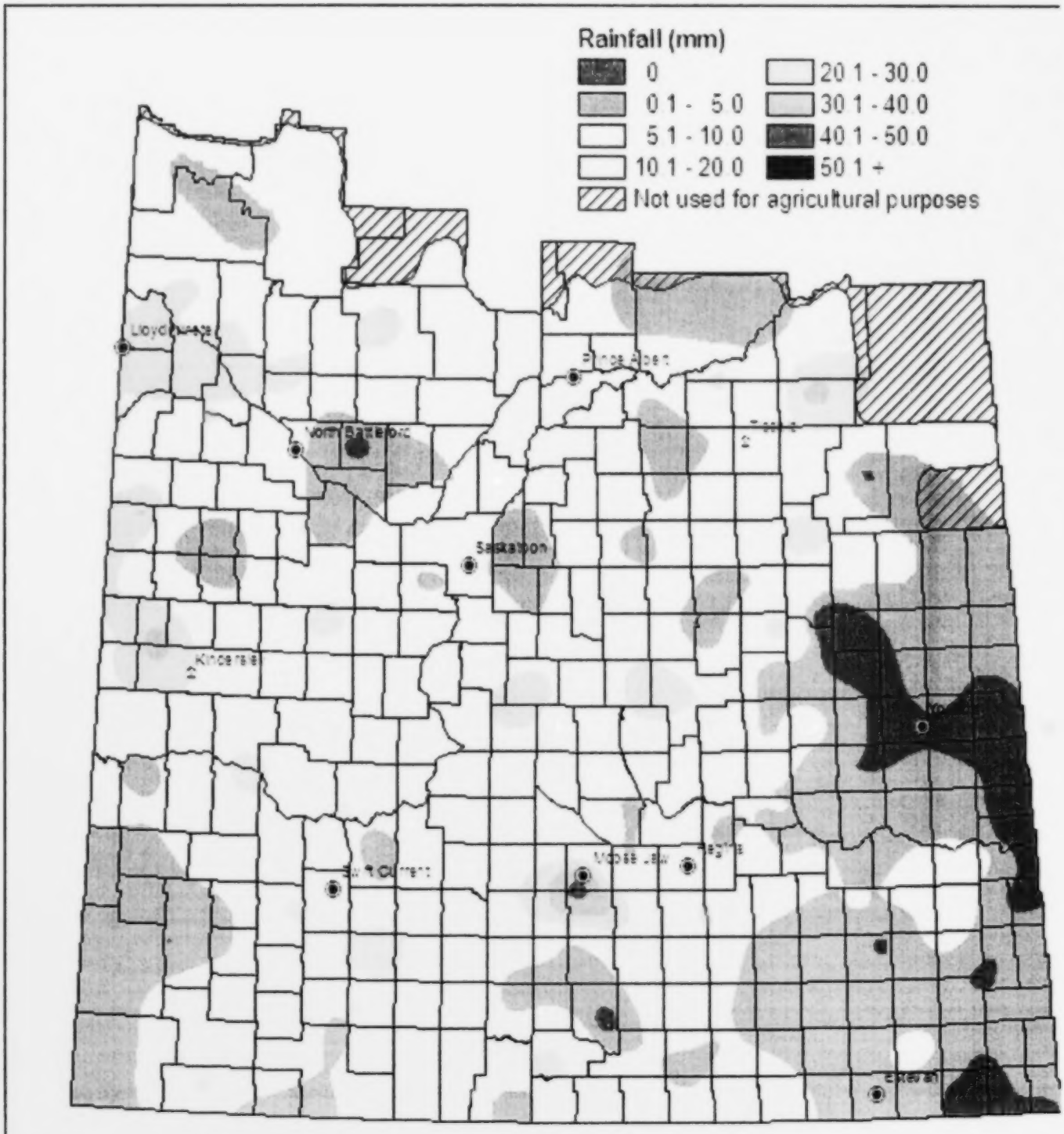
Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities



Weekly Rainfall

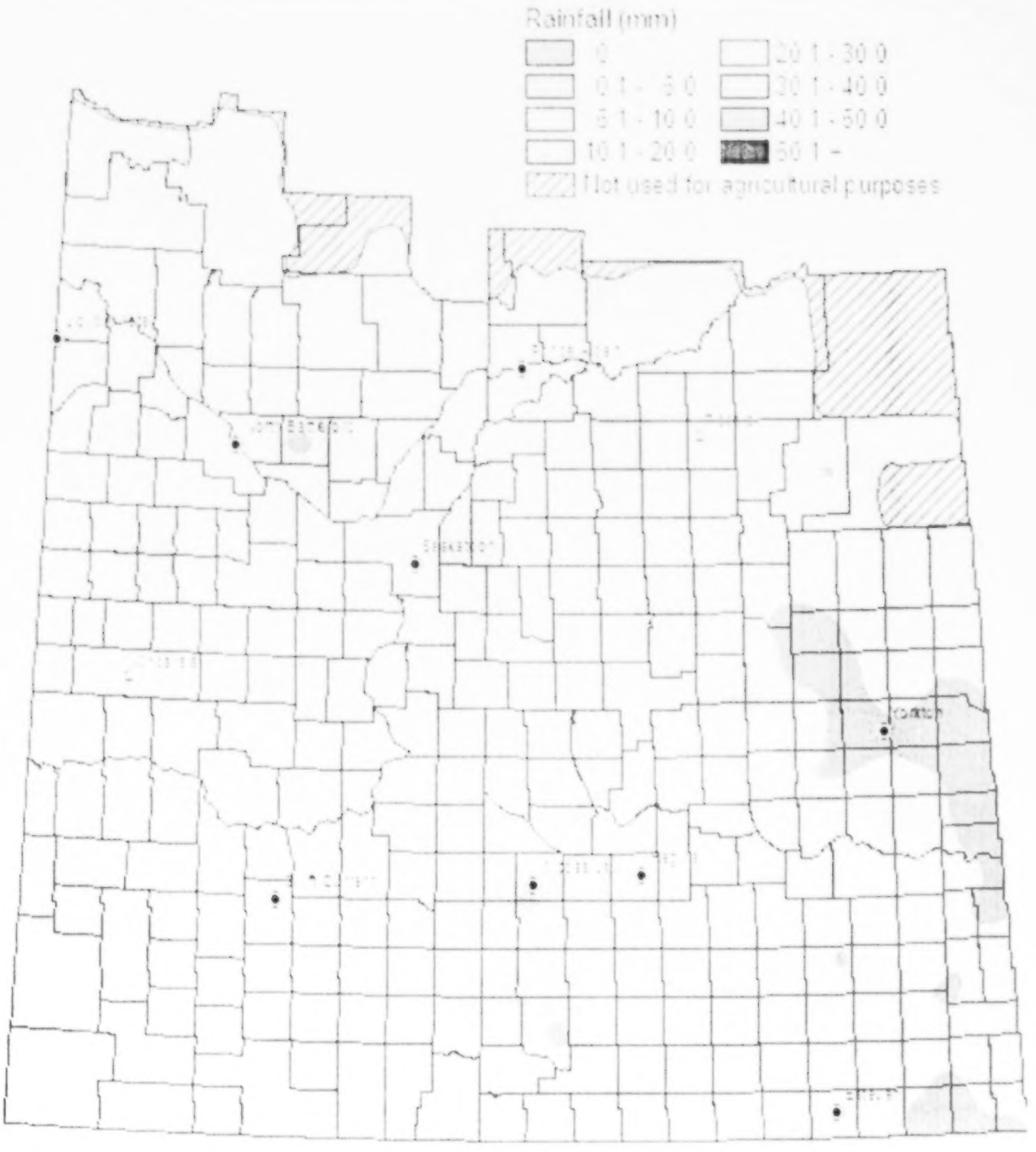
for the week ending July 29, 2006



Saskatchewan

Weekly Rainfall

for the week ending July 29, 2006



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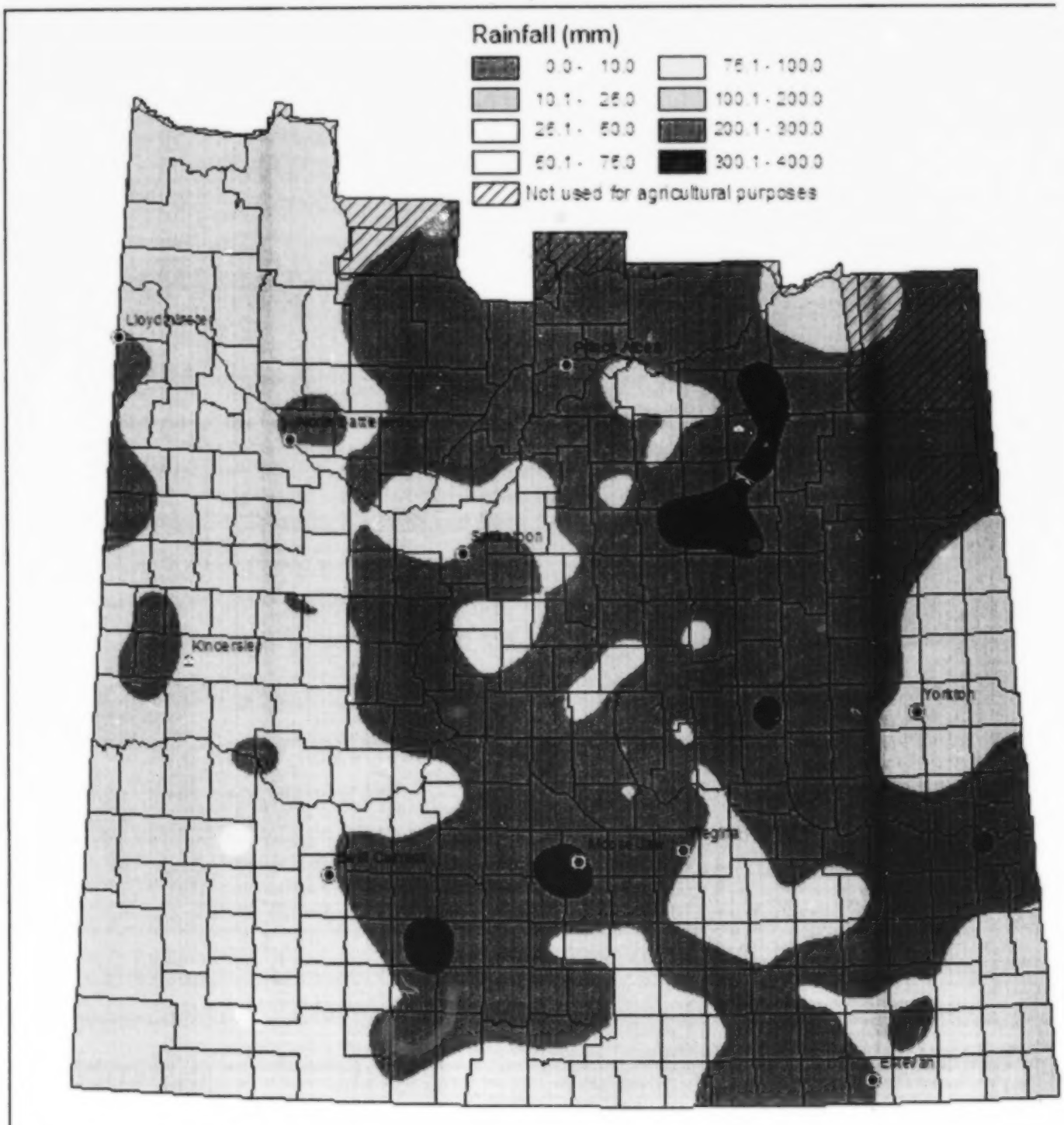
Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

To: July 29, 2006



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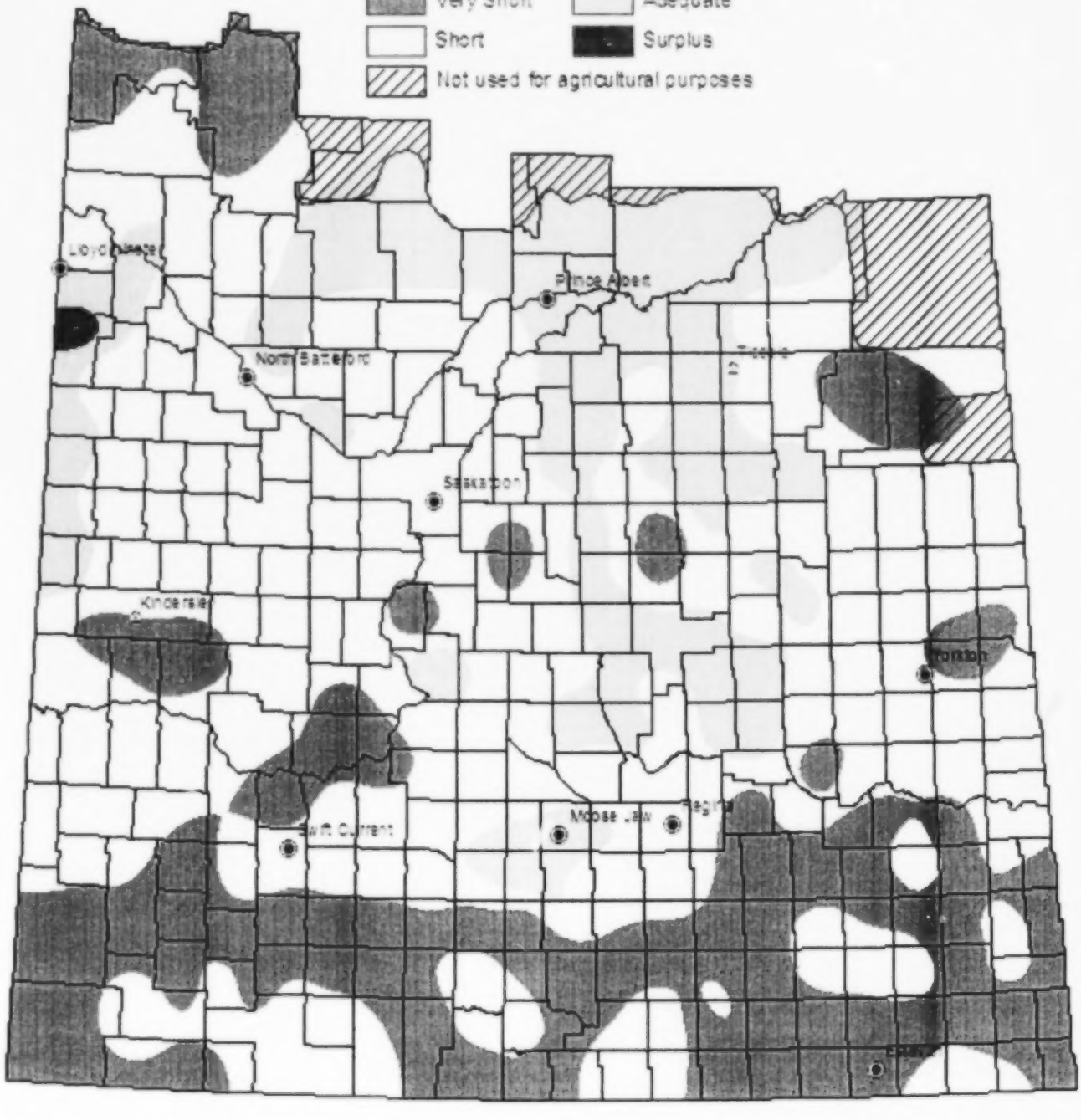
Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

July 30, 2006

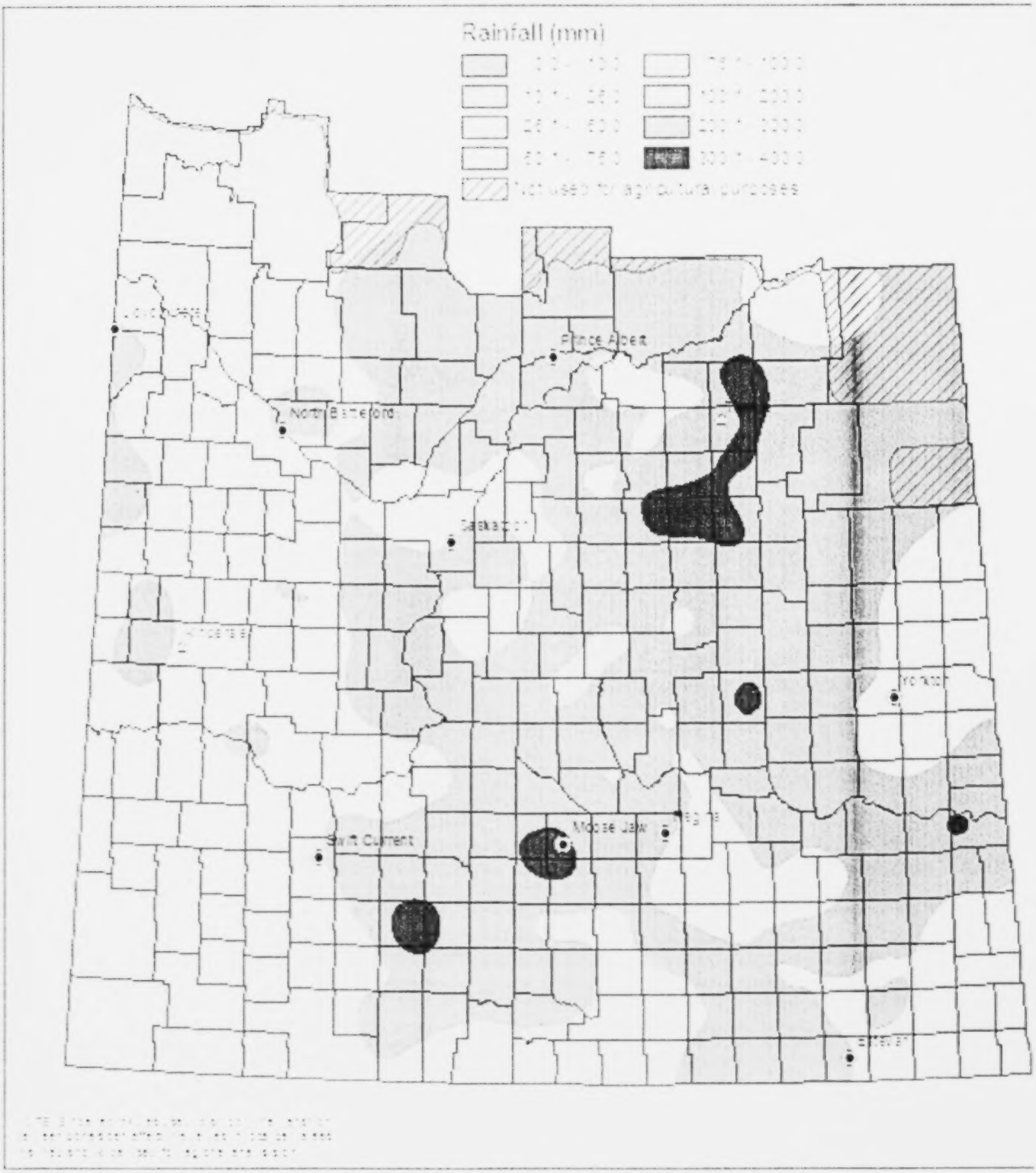


Saskatchewan

Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

To: July 29, 2006



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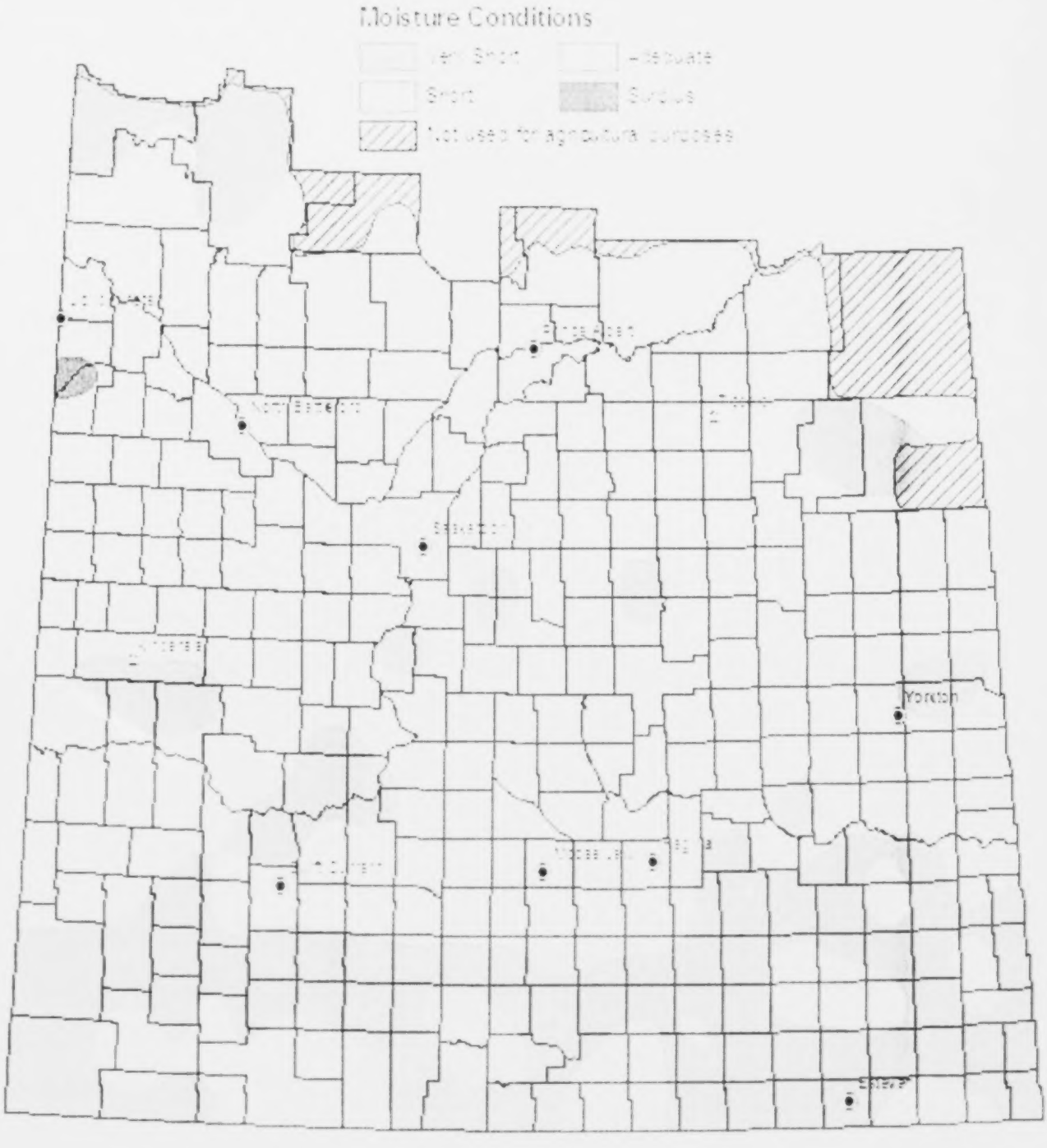
Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

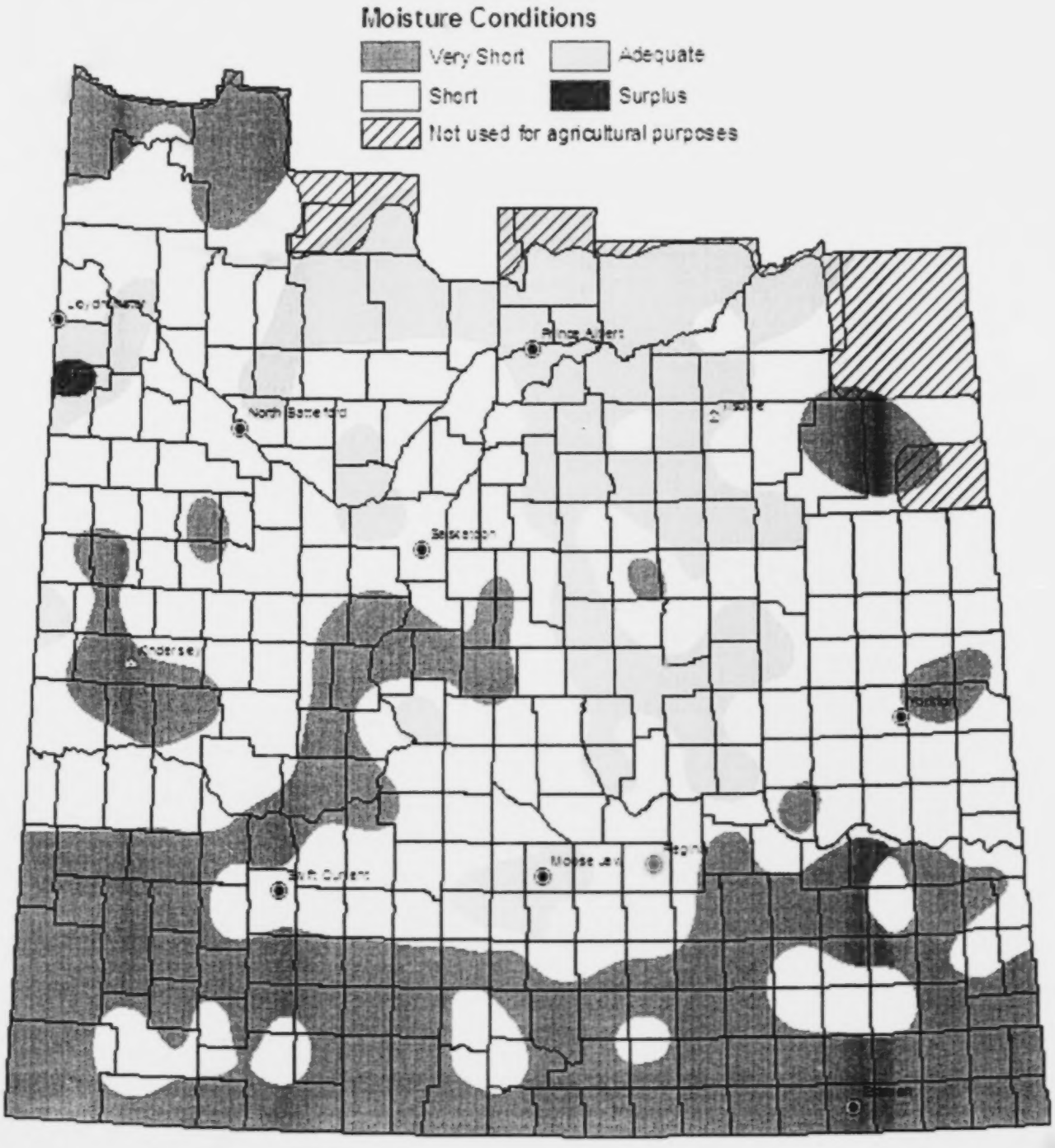
July 30, 2006



Saskatchewan

Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

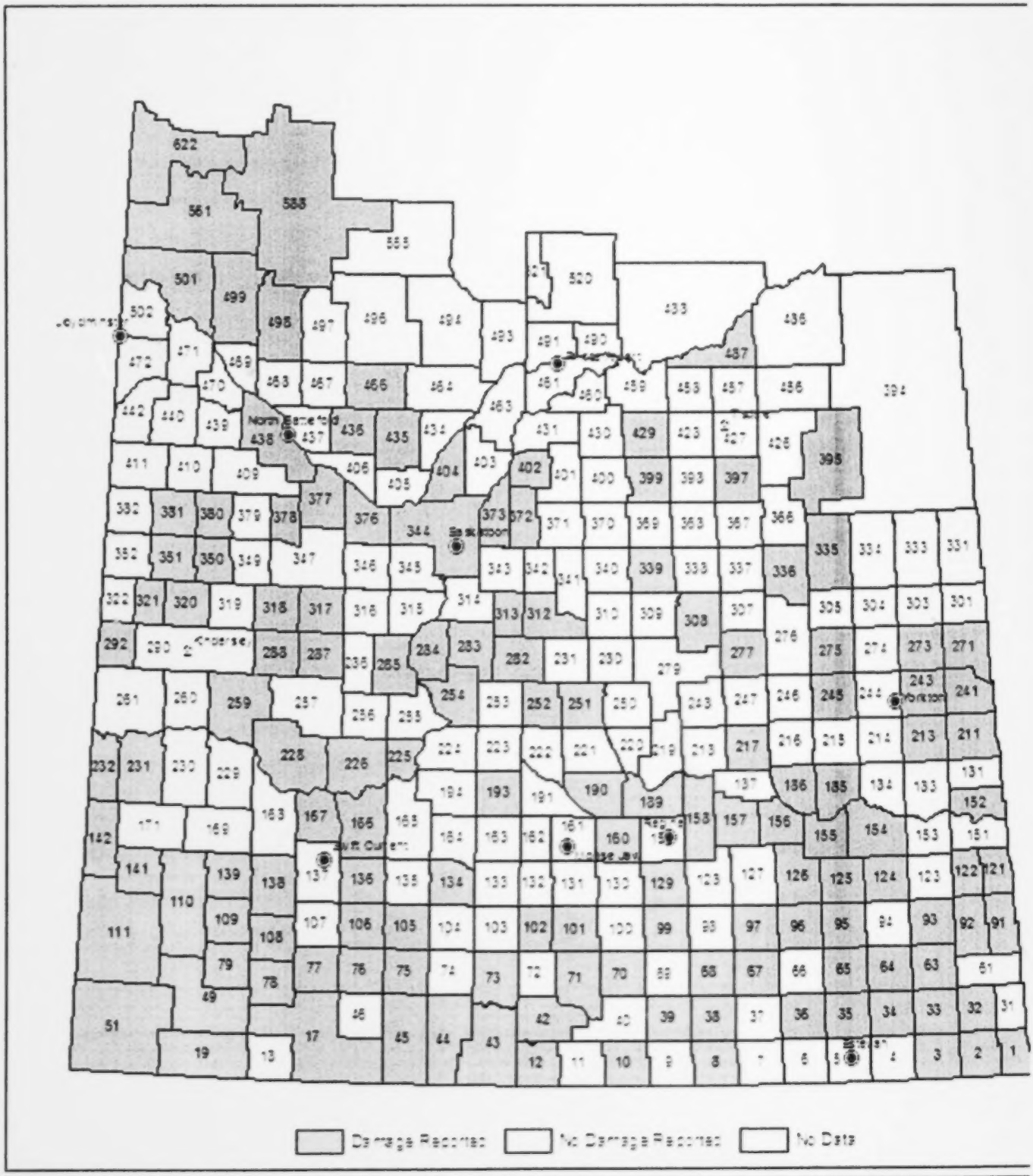
July 30, 2006



Saskatchewan

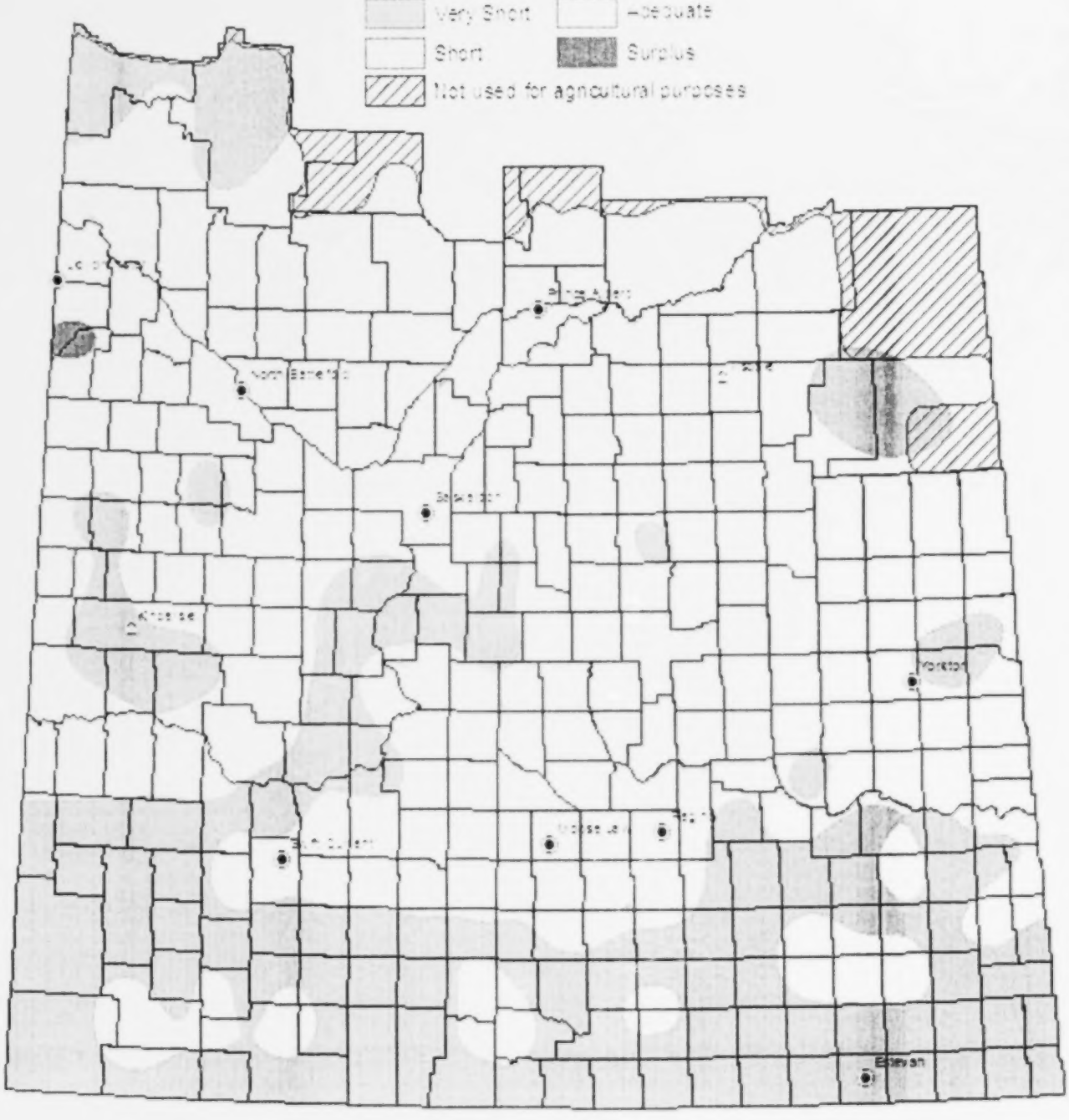
Crop Damage - Drought

for the week ending July 29, 2006



Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

July 30, 2006



Saskatchewan

Crop Damage - Drought

for the week ending July 29, 2006